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GPHY 112N.01: Introduction to Physical Geography Lab

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Recommended Citation

Kamp, Ulrich, "GPHY 112N.01: Introduction to Physical Geography Lab" (2014). *Syllabi*. 1420.
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Geography 112:

Introduction to Physical Geography Lab

Spring 2014

Class Time: Monday: 3:10 PM to 5:00 PM

Classroom: Stone Hall 218

Teaching Assistant Lab (GPHY 112) Instructor: Dan Kozel

Office: Stone Hall 214

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2:30pm-3:30pm (or by appointment)

Email: daniel.kozel@umconnect.umn.edu

Physical Geography Lecture Course (GPHY 111N) Instructor: Ulrich Kamp

Office: Stone Hall 205

Office Hours: Monday: 3:00-4:00, Tuesday: 2:00-3:00

Email: ulrich.kamp@umontana.edu

****Required Activity Book:** GEOS: The Pearson Custom Library for Geography & Geology

A fairly recent edition of *Elemental Geosystems* (requirement for GPHY 111N during past semesters but not this semester) by Christopherson is also a useful reference, especially because of its color graphics. This book is not required for GPHY 112, but a copy will be available for student use during labs.

****TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE****

<u>Week #</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	August 25	Introduction
2	September 1	NO CLASSES (LABOR DAY)
3	September 8	Latitude, Longitude, Time
4	September 15	Map Projections, Map Reading, & Interpretation
5	September 22	Directions & Compass Readings
6	September 29	Earth-Sun Relationships, Insolation, & Seasons
7	October 6	Temperature Concepts
8	October 13	Atmospheric Humidity, Stability, & Adiabatic Processes

9	October 20	Weather Maps
10	October 27	Global Climate Systems
11	November 3	Plate Tectonics: Global Patterns & Volcanism
12	November 10	Recurrence in Intervals for Natural Events
13	November 17	Contours & Topographic Maps
14	November 24	Topographic Analysis: Coastal and Arid Geomorphology
15	December 1	Topographic Analysis: Glacial Geomorphology
16	December 8	FINAL EXAM WEEK

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The following policies allow teaching without distractions and provide each student with a pleasant atmosphere for learning:

1. Please refrain from talking in class, unless engaging in questions with the instructor or actively participating in group discussion.
2. No cell phones on in class! Please make sure your cell phone is off before class begins.
3. Be on time! I expect everyone to be on time for class. If for some reason, you are late, I ask that you be quiet and non-disruptive.
4. You will not leave class early if you have not yet completed the weekly exercise. If you have a special reason for leaving early, please contact the instructor before class begins, and exit quietly.

EXERCISE LOGISTICS & GRADING

There are 13 lab exercises that are each worth 20 points. Extra credit opportunity and attendance credit will be offered in the course of the semester.

Each week, lab assignments often loosely correlate with what has been discussed in the Physical Geography lecture course. The exercises serve as complementary material for enriching your understanding of physical geography.

If you know you're going to miss a class, inform the instructor early and work out how to resolve potential issues.

All exercises will be completed in your activity book. Activity books are to be turned in to the instructor by the end of each class. They will be graded between classes and handed back at the beginning of class, so you can do the next assignment.

I keep in mind that some exercises take longer than others, and student efficiency can vary day-to-day based on numerous factors. Thus, while you should try to finish assignments before class ends, I will be flexible if that doesn't happen. The final due date for assignments is one week after they are assigned.

You are allowed to work with a partner if you want to do so. Working alone is also fine. Occasionally, sharing equipment will be necessary. To accommodate time and equipment limitations, each exercise you complete will be somewhat different than what the book presents. Customized instructions for each exercise will be posted on Moodle.

If you have trouble understanding assignments, or if the customized instructions confuse you, don't hesitate to ask for help. Helping students is our job, and we are compensated.

Final Grade Compilation (260 total points)

Not counting extra credit and attendance credit, 260 points are available for the course. Your grade is based on the exercises, so complete every one, and get help if you're confused. All exercises, as well as the final grade, are based on the scale below. Note: I will round up grades on threshold edges. For example, I consider a 69.9% to be a C-, but just barely.

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89 %

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = 59% and below

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Consult the Dean of Students website for the Student Conduct Code at:
<http://life.umd.edu/vpsa/documents/StudentConductCode1.pdf>.

Carefully review the sections on plagiarism (also consult the UM Catalog). Cheating and plagiarism are not tolerated and will be dealt with as outlined in the Code.

In terms of scheduling and assignments, this syllabus may slightly change throughout the semester